

REMARKS

Each of independent claims 1, 9, 15, 18 and 24 has been amended to clarify various aspects of the Applicants' invention. Claims 21-23 have been canceled. Claims 1-7, 9-20, and 24 are now pending. No fee for extra claims is required.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 and 9-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Babula et al. (US 2002/0004798 A1). As applied to canceled claims 21-23, this ground of rejection is now moot. As applied to claims 1-7, 9-20 and 24, the Applicants traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

The Babula publication discloses a system comprising a central service facility and a multiplicity of remotely located medical diagnostic systems (i.e., scanners) that communicate with the central service facility by way of a network. There is no disclosure that the medical diagnostic systems are connected by a local area network. *A fortiori*, Babula does not disclose or suggest monitoring traffic on a local area network.

The uniform service platform 90 is a part of each medical diagnostic system. The Babula publication fails to disclose that the uniform service platform of a particular medical diagnostic system captures files or objects originating from a specified transmitting device and does not capture files or objects originating from transmitting devices not specified. Nor does Babula disclose that the uniform

service platform of the particular medical diagnostic system captures transmitted files or objects from the specified transmitting device, even though the file or object in transit contains a destination address that is different than the address of the uniform service platform of the particular medical diagnostic system. Babula is silent concerning such data capture. Moreover, there is nothing in Babula that would lead any person skilled in the art to believe that the uniform service platform of a particular medical diagnostic system would capture files or objects not addressed to it. The Applicants also note that, in reading claim 1 on Babula, the Examiner failed to cite any extract to support the assertion that Babula discloses "capturing from said local area network traffic data originated from said specified scanner".

In addition, Babula nowhere discloses that the uniform service platform in one scanner ever receives a communication in which some other scanner is specified as the transmitting device from which files or objects originating therefrom are to be captured. Instead, Babula explicitly states that the uniform service platform "includes hardware, firmware, and software components adapted for composing service requests, transmitting and receiving service data, establishing network connections and managing financial or subscriber arrangements between diagnostic systems and the service facility." [Babula, ¶ 0039; emphasis added.] Each diagnostic system incorporates a respective uniform service

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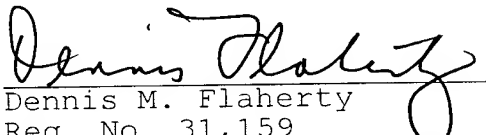
platform, which enables each diagnostic system to communicate with the central service facility.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that amended independent claims 1, 9, 15, 18 and 24, and all claims dependent thereon, are not anticipated by Babula.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-7, 9-20, and 24 are hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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